



# PAUL CUNNINGHAM

WARD 2

June 5, 2015

**WARD 2 COUNCIL OFFICE**  
**7575 E SPEEDWAY**  
**791-4687**  
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## PAUL'S NOTE

My grandmother, Judge Lillian Fisher, didn't like for me to say that she climbed in the Himalayas.

"I only made it to the first base camp," she would tell me.

Of course, the first base camp was at 17,000 feet.

Someone who climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro, as she did, could down play that ac-

complishment.

I'm planning on writing a longer remembrance of my grandmother for the Tucson Sentinel, but I can't let my weekly newsletter go without talking about her life.

Her impact on this community was rather staggering, and it started shortly after she graduated law school.

One of her first pro bono clients was an eccentric horticulturalist named Harrison Yocum. Yocum had a collection of plants and had a dream of making it available to the public. She helped him put together a non-profit that became the Tucson Botanical Gardens.

Even though Judges Lorna Lockwood and Alice Truman had already ascended to the heights of Arizona's legal system, female attorneys were a rare breed in our state in the 1960's. My Grandmother was one of three women in her class in the U of A law school. She founded the Arizona Women Lawyers Association to make sure that women in the legal profession had the support they needed to be successful.

She was not always the most popular person with her colleagues. She got an "unqualified" rating from the State Bar Association when she first ran for judge, likely because she was taking on an incumbent well liked by the legal community. She continued to encounter a lot of resistance when she ran for reelection.

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## PAUL'S NOTE—CONTINUED

Much of that was because of lingering sexism, but also because of her willingness to change the way the legal system worked in Pima County. Because of problems she saw in the court system, both as an elected judge and later with juvenile court, she established programs like Court Appointed Special Advocate, Pre-Trial Services and took action to establish a contract system that limited fees for attorneys.

Oh, and her judicial career also included climbing to the top of Mt. Wrightston (she was a president of the Southern Arizona Hiking Club at one point) to perform a wedding ceremony. Anything for the public.

I haven't even gotten in to her writing. She wrote romance stories for a time until she got bored with it, and wrote articles on women pirates. One year, current Washington State Football coach Mike Leach came to town and I had the chance to take him on a tour. I thought I could talk football with him. No, Leach, a JD known to be fixated on pirates, wanted to talk to my grandmother.

There are a lot of stories, like the tales she told me about going to the Cotton Club to see Count Basie and Duke Ellington. What's most important is what I learned from her about hard work, decency and serving the community. I see that legacy in my mom, my aunt, my uncle and my brothers and sisters.

Back in 2010, it was a pretty easy choice of who would swear me in. If I have the chance to be sworn in again, I hope she'll be there in a way.

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## VETERAN'S FRIEND

Veteran's Friend's Mission is to make a positive difference in the quality of life of all senior veterans by providing a free service to inform and educate veterans, their families, and surviving spouses about a special VA pension for which they are often entitled but fail to understand.

VA Accredited claims Representative Robert Dhillon has a 100% success rate in obtaining VA pensions benefits. Join Robert for a free educational briefing where you will learn the truth about Veterans Benefits.

Robert Dhillon, president of REAL Solutions Services, operates Veteran's Friend to assist World War II, Korea and Vietnam wartime veterans and their spouses collect their tax-free VA pension, up to \$25,000 a year, to pay for long term health care.

Date: June 20

Time: 10:00 am

Location: Ward 2 Office, 7575 E Speedway.

RSVP: 495-0045

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## HOUGHTON ROAD UPDATE

**Broadway Intersection Improvements:** Project is complete.

**Broadway Intersection Park & Ride:** We are very happy to announce that the Park and Ride is now available to use. Sun Tran routes 8, 108 express, and 4 are now stopping at this facility. Details are available at [http://suntran.com/commuter\\_park.php](http://suntran.com/commuter_park.php)

We are still waiting for the final bus driver's offices/restrooms building, which should be in soon. It is currently in fabrication.

**Broadway Boulevard to 22nd Street:** Contract start date was March 30, 2015 with a scheduled completion date of September 20, 2016

We continue to work on installing water lines, storm drains, and box culverts on the east side of Houghton. Once we have this preliminary work completed, we will be constructing the temporary pavement on top of them so we can shift traffic to the east side of the road, and begin this work on the west side of Houghton. We are also installing this same infrastructure on the southeast portion of 22nd Street.

Traffic impacts for this work involve some temporary narrowing of the residential side streets adjacent to Houghton. We are narrowing down the residential side streets to one lane, while we complete the water work for each side street. That work at each street takes less than a day, so please bear with us while we make these adjustments. We will have several types of barricades and a few flaggers to help you through this area.

In the near future we will be removing some dirt from Houghton and moving it over to 22nd, so you will also see 22nd, east of Houghton, starting to take shape. We are also going to have a lot of water work in the middle of the Houghton and 22nd Street work, and we are looking at ways to approach that work with the least amount of traffic disturbance.

The artists have submitted some concepts that we would like to present at a Ward 2 CDRC meeting that we are in the process of scheduling. As soon as I have some drawings to share, I will add them to this update.

Adjacent project: Broadway, Camino Seco to Houghton is starting up and we will let you know when the public meetings for this project begin. We will also invite them to a Ward 2 CDRC meeting to provide you with an update.

**Adjacent Road Recovery repaving work:** On Tuesday, May 26, 2015, crews from Southern Arizona Paving and Construction Co., under contract with the City of Tucson Department of Transportation (TDOT), began work to improve the pavement conditions on Speedway Boulevard from Pantano Road to Camino Seco and on Pantano Road from Speedway Boulevard to Broadway and on Broadway from Pantano Road to Camino Seco.

More information on the Road Recovery Program can be found at [www.tucsonaz.gov/streetbonds](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/streetbonds) or by calling 520-837-6686.

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## CAROL WEST SENIOR CENTER

**Mt. Lemon Trip:** Seniors will have an opportunity to enjoy a field trip to Mt. Lemmon on Tuesday, June 16. Departure from the center is 9:00 a.m. and return is 2:30 p.m. The cost is \$2.00 per person.

**Casino Night:** The Carol West Senior Addition will host Casino Night on Thursday, June 25 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The event will have entertainment, food, 10 gambling chips and prizes. The event will be sponsored by Sunrise Senior Living.

## PARKS PROGRAMS

**Spring Swim Schedule:** The Spring Swim schedule for Udall Park and Ft. Lowell Park started April 1st. Contact the Aquatics Division at 791-4245/791-5352 or visit <http://www.tucsonaz.gov/parks/aquatics#hours> for pool locations and swim schedule.

**Summer 2015 Program Guide and Class Catalog:** The Summer 2015 Program Guide and Class Catalog is available. The catalog can be picked-up at all Parks and Recreation facilities. It can be viewed on-line at [www.ezeereg.com](http://www.ezeereg.com) Contact the Registration Office at 791-4877 for additional information.

**Summer Road Races and Track and Field:** Summer Track and Field events will be held at Roy Drachman Stadium near Plummer & 15th every Tuesday through July 15.

Summer Road Races will be held each Thursday thru July 16 at various parks around Tucson. For more information, call 791-4870.

Onsite registration for both events begins at 5:45 pm with the competition starting at 6:30 pm. Registration is \$3 for children and \$4 for adults. Ribbons will be given to the top finishers. For details, please call 791-4870.

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**PAUL CUNNINGHAM,  
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Tucsonaz.gov/  
ward2

Remember to like  
Paul on Facebook!

Please bring these items to the Ward 2 Office  
for the following charities:

**THE COMMUNITY FOOD BANK—Non Perishable  
Items**

**DIAPER BANK OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA—  
Infant/Child/Adult Diapers**

**TIHAN - Personal Care Items for Individuals  
and Families in Need**

**LIONS CLUB—Eye Glasses**

**DANCING IN THE STREETS ARIZONA—Ballet/  
Dance Equipment**

**CASA MARIA—Plastic bags**

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## MAYOR AND COUNCIL

The next Mayor and Council meeting will be on Tuesday, June 23. Regular Session starts at 5:30 pm following an afternoon study session.

There is always a short call to the audience before the business portion of the meeting. Council chambers are located downtown at 255 W Alameda.

The agendas for the meetings are posted online at <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/clerks/mcdocs>

